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The Portal

BALMORAL HALL SCHOOL
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Founded in 1901

Balmoral Hall School, a university preparatory school, educates, encourages and empowers young women who excel academically, possess a passion for learning, set high standards for personal achievement, and who will be self-confident leaders of tomorrow.

The Portal, a publication of Balmoral Hall School's Advancement Office, is distributed to over 4000 members of the BH Family — parents, alumnae, grandparents, staff, parents of alumnae, former staff and friends of the School.

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Balmoral Hall School Summer Get Together 2007

Attention: Alumnae, Parents and Parents of Alumnae of BH and her founding schools

Gather your friends together and join us for our 1st annual Lake of the Woods Get Together—Simple Summer Pleasures, Great Friends, Great Food, Great Memories

Saturday July 21, 2007
Royal Lake of the Woods Yacht Club
Cocktails at 6 pm with Dinner at 7 pm
Dancing to follow

Tables of 10—tickets $125.00 per person or patron tickets at $150.00

Contact: Charlotte Sytnyk at charlotte.sytnyk@mts.net or Phone Ginny Lechman '98 in the Advancement Office 204-784-1603

Head of School Message

Claire Sumerlus, Head of School

Members from the visiting CESI Team sing Best Friends with students of Balmoral Hall.

"I believe BH graduates are the modern day embodiment of renaissance girls—confident, well-rounded and committed to succeed."

Warm greetings to the BH community across the globe. As our days lengthen with the promise of spring, I am reminded of how quickly the school year is passing. Much has been accomplished so far this year at BH, and we continue to embrace the future with a sense of excitement and enthusiasm. This edition of the Portal will share with you the progress we have made with our new program initiatives, some of the accolades BH has received from the international academic community and a glimpse into the busy lives of our students and community.

Never content to rest on past achievements, BH is forging ahead in meeting our commitment to providing a rigourous academic experience in an environment that supports, encourages and challenges girls and young women to achieve their personal best in all areas of endeavour. I am often asked how to describe the BH experience. Rather than listing an increasing length of accomplishments by individuals, I have begun to look to the past to describe the future. The word Renaissance, French for 'rebirth', defines a time in history characterized by the revival of learning and advancements in the arts and science. I believe BH graduates are the modern day embodiment of renaissance girls—confident, well-rounded and committed to succeed.

More than ever before, graduates today are expected to be proficient in a number of areas—future doctors need to appreciate the nuances of politics; future judges need to understand the importance of the environment; and future leaders need to demonstrate they have an appreciation for the role of the arts in modern society. Our recent program initiatives in athletics and the arts are a key part of meeting our mandate of educating the exceptional women of the future.

As you know, visual and performing arts have been an integral component of the education program at BH since our founding. With the establishment of the BH Academy of the Arts, BH will be the first independent school in Manitoba to ensure all students develop an appreciation and passion for the arts through the development of a comprehensive musical theatre and visual arts curriculum. Where other schools offer arts programming as an optional, often extracurricular activity, BH will be charting a new course by expanding course offerings in the daily

timetable. Starting in the fall of 2007, the BH Academy of the Arts will offer an array of exploratory to advanced courses in Junior, Middle and Senior School.

The inaugural season of our elite girls hockey program is coming to a close and what a season it has been! Our team, under the dedicated coaching staff led by Dean Rebeck, has demonstrated a high calibre of international play. Our program has received interest from the media, and our graduates are receiving scholarship offers from major universities and colleges across North America. While a key goal of our hockey program is to provide our student athletes with the high performance hockey experience they will need to ensure a smooth transition to the post-secondary athletics environment, the BH Blazers program also includes a high school team, a developmental hockey skills program as well as a skating skills program that is integrated into the BH athletics curriculum. As collegiate level hockey scholarship opportunities increase for young women, we are proud to offer a real option for promising female hockey players.

As I have shared with you in the past, it is one thing for us to be proud of our achievements. We cannot succeed, however, without constantly evaluating our program against stringent, global criteria. As an accredited member of the Canadian Educational Standards Institute (CESI), BH is subject to an exhaustive review of our facility and programs on a regular basis. We have just received the final report and our sustaining accreditation. I look forward to providing you more details over the coming months. I did want to share with you the fact that the review committee had many positive things to say about the BH approach to girls learning. At the same time we were undergoing our CESI accreditation review, our International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (IBPYP) received an additional accreditation visit to review

"Within every great school there exists a pervasive, yet unspoken, sense of pride and commitment to the ideals of the school. One senses it as they walk through the doors for the first time and then re-encounters it with each conversation, with each observation, with each child's voice that rings through the hallways during the school day. Such was the case at Balmoral Hall during the CESI team visit in November 2006, where sound principles of education converge in a caring environment with dedicated staff to support an exciting Mission and an ambitious plan for the future."

Peter Sturrup,
Headmaster Pickering College & Visiting CESI Committee Chair

our progress in implementing the PYP. The IB review team evaluated the Programme of Inquiry developed from Nursery to Grade 5, interviewed students, parents and board members to determine levels of awareness and attitudes towards the programme. The visiting committee commended the teachers of Junior School on the time and dedication they have given to the learning process and the development of the new curriculum and programmes. I also extend my congratulations to our Junior School team for demonstrating the BH commitment of a rigorous, engaging and challenging curriculum that will ensure all our students are well equipped to meet the challenges of the future.

In closing, I invite you to share the year so far at BH by reading the articles that follow. I welcome your comments and suggestions on how we can continue to meet our goal, of demonstrating the value of a well-rounded BH education characterized by rigorous academics, involvement in the arts, appreciation of lifelong athletics, the development of leadership and personal management skills and a commitment to the community.

"...our graduates are receiving scholarship offers from major universities and colleges across North America."

This just in!

BH PYP Receives International Credentials

The Primary Years Programme of Balmoral Hall School (BH) has received authorization by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) and is now recognized as an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School. Only authorized schools may use the term IB to describe their program. BH is the only school in Manitoba to have received this prestigious authorization.

Physical Education Leads to Lifelong Health and Well-being

At Balmoral Hall School, physical education plays an important role in the curriculum involving students from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 12. Many students also choose to participate in after-school sports such as basketball, volleyball and track & field. At Balmoral Hall School, we encourage children to lead active and healthy lifestyles so that they can grow into healthy and active adults.

Highlights

Kristin Cockerill, Grade 10
In the fall of 2006, Kristin competed in two cross-country running events. She placed first in a tournament at St. Maurice School and qualified for the Provincials. Unfortunately due to bad weather, Kristin was unable to attend the Provincial competition but hopes to be there next year!

Ashley Fredette, Grade 10
In September of 2006, the Blazers golf team consisting of Ashley Fredette, Ashley Rebeck, Sarah Scott and Roxanne Ilagan came in first place in a Zone competition. They went on to represent both the School and the Zone in Morden, Manitoba at the MHSAA Golf Provincials. Ashley placed second as an individual with a score of 96. First place was only one point away.

Volleyball
The volleyball season has been extremely busy and exciting. Middle and Senior School students participated and formed a Developmental, two Junior Varsity and a Varsity Team. A record forty-four students came out this year to play Grade 6 and 7 volleyball! Both Junior Varsity and Varsity teams played in the Zone finals and semi-finals.

The Varsity Volleyball Team travelled to Rundle College in Calgary, Alberta to compete in the Western Canadian Independent Schools Championships. The girls placed 5th in the tournament and had a great time being a part of this 30 year old tradition. Balmoral Hall School has the honour of hosting the WCISC in October 2007.

Thank you to the following coaches who volunteered their time: Dolores Rebeck, Ann Prendiville, Lee Almstrom, Ursela Ferguson, Robyn Zajac '08, Olivia Zaporzan '08, Kate Langrell '07, Michelle Sanheim, Tracy Smith and John Kerr.

Curling
Balmoral Hall's two rinks competed in the Zone 12 playoffs on February 9, 2007. The rink consisting of Valerie Beynon (Skip), Kathryn Marcynuk (Third), Katie Moore (Second), and Airyn Lancaster (Lead) won the Zone competition and will move on to play the winner of Zone 1.

Blazing a Trail

The BH Blazers Prep Hockey Team is only in their first year, but college scouts have already noticed the young women who make up the team. Travelling across Canada and the United States, the team is playing university and college level opponents—and winning. Many students on the team have realized that hockey plus a solid education can equal a golden ticket to their future.

Kaytlin Drews joined Balmoral Hall School in 2005. For her it has been a life altering experience. She writes, *"Attending Balmoral Hall School was not only the most significant experience of my life, but the biggest achievement and risk I have ever taken.*

I grew up in a small mining town located in northern Manitoba. I attended the local school for ten years and tried everything the town and school had to offer. I played on all the school teams and joined most of the clubs. This was where I called home.

Although small town life is great, my overall goal was to find bigger and better things for myself, so I put most of my energy into school and hockey. Hockey is something that I enjoyed and am talented at, but sports are never a sure way to get ahead in life. I knew I needed to work hard at school. My goal was reached when I was asked to attend Balmoral Hall School. At first I was surprised and excited, but as the moving date came closer I became more and more nervous about my decision. I was 16 years old and moving seven hours away from my family, friends and the only place I had ever called home.

During my first year at BH, I found myself comparing my new life to my old one. Everything was different and at times it became hard to adapt. Luckily, I was surrounded by people who helped me and within the walls of Balmoral Hall my mind grew. My thoughts of self expanded from average to above average.

Coming to Balmoral Hall has been so significant to my life not only because I am able to play the sport I love at a higher level, but because the School changed my perspective on life. It taught me how to make my dreams a reality and for that, I am thankful. I really don't know where or what I would be if I hadn't taken the risk that I did. The words in Balmoral Hall's Mission Statement are actually amazing ones. They taught me to believe in myself, to work hard and achieve my goals, and to succeed in everything I do. Attending BH has changed my life."

Skating Takes its Place in the Curriculum

Balmoral Hall School has added another dimension to the Grades 4 – 8 athletic curriculum. A new skating program has been implemented which supports the Manitoba Department of Education and Training initiative for adding more physical education into the school day. Designed for students of all ability levels, the program teaches forward and backward skating, balance, agility, start, stops and tight turns.

Congratulations to Saleah Morrison, Cindy Lukianchuk and Sam Wauer of the Blazers Prep Team. As of February 2007, Saleah accepted a full athletic scholarship to the University of Vermont, Sam accepted a scholarship to Cornell University and Cindy accepted a scholarship to Hamilton College in New York. Congratulations girls!

Kaytlin Drews '07

Girls for the Cure

The Chemo Savvy dragon boat team kicks off the Girls for the Cure Walk/Run.

On a cold October day in 2001, staff and students from Grades 1 to 12 embarked on Balmoral Hall School's first-ever Girls for the Cure Walk/Run. The Walk/Run has since become an annual event and a principal contributor to the Guardian Angel Benefit. In the six years since the initial walk, BH has raised over $108,000 for women's cancer. Girls for the Cure exemplifies BH's goal of heightened awareness among girls and young women, raising funds in support of the Angels' commitment to breast cancer initiatives and encouraging the participation of other schools in our community. The day is also linked with a featured speaker whose message educates and empowers students to make positive choices for themselves.

This year, Balmoral Hall School was chosen to be the recipient of the 2006 **Great-West Life Assurance Award of Distinction**. This award was established in 1994 to recognize a group, individual or organization that demonstrates outstanding commitment in the fight against women's cancer. On October 23, 2006, the award was presented to Balmoral Hall School at the Annual Guardian Angels Benefit Dinner. BH is honoured to receive this award and will continue to educate and empower our students in the fight against women's cancer.

l-r: Robin Jacuzzi '07, Claire Sumerlus, & Stefania Campanelli '07 receive the Great-West Life Award of Distinction.

Day of Giving

Our annual Day of Giving was a delightful way to spend the last school day of 2006. Together, students and staff gave their time and talents to the community.

Middle School students spent the morning creating and preparing gifts for the 300 residents of Misericordia Place and Misericordia Hospital. In the afternoon, they all walked over to the residence and hospital to distribute the gifts, visit with patients and sing.

Senior School students chose between a day of volunteering in the community or staying at BH to organize and facilitate our Neighbourhood Party for the students of Mulvey School. Mulvey School students joined our Senior and Junior School students and staff for an afternoon of crafts, entertainment and refreshments.

Thank you to everyone who participated in this annual event. It was a good reminder to staff and students how important it is to volunteer. The efforts of any one individual can really make a difference.

Saira Abdulrehman and Shereen Samimi bake sugar cookies for the Neighbourhood Party.

Middle School students prepare gifts for the residents of Misericordia Place and Hospital.

Robin Jacuzzi displays the crafts she helped Mulvey School children make.

Balmoral Hall School participates annually in many action-packed school field trips. These trips help build a sense of community, teamwork and cooperation among students. Students are given the opportunity to get to know one another better and the lessons learned are brought back to the classroom.

Seen here are students at Camp Arnes (Grade 6), Yurt Camp (Grade 7), and the Renaissance Festival (Grade 8). Performing Arts students in Grades 9 – 12 travelled to Chicago where they participated in workshops and improved their skills.

School Field Trips

Middle School Production

Middle School students had a wonderful time and delivered three energetic performances in November 2006 during their production of *A Bagful of Peanuts*. Opening with a spirited rendition of *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, over 100 students marched onto the stage in bright red shirts. The show featured over a dozen great songs with special mention going to the hilarious *Book Report* and the finale *Happiness*.

Congratulations to the Middle School students, director George Budoloski, choreographer Robin Dow and to the many staff members who helped with the show. Bravo girls!

Introducing...The Balmoral Hall School **Academy of the Arts**

Visual and performing arts have been integral components of the education program at Balmoral Hall School (BH) since our founding. With the establishment of the BH Academy of the Arts for girls in Junior Kindergarten to Grade 12, BH will be the first independent school in Manitoba to ensure all students develop an appreciation and passion for the arts through the development of a comprehensive musical theatre and visual arts curriculum. Where other schools offer arts programming as an optional, often extracurricular activity, BH is charting a new course by expanding course offerings in the daily timetable.

Starting in the fall of 2007, the BH Academy of the Arts will offer an array of exploratory to advanced courses in dance, studio art, vocal arts and musical theatre. BH is proud to offer the first curriculum-based dance program for Junior School students (Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5) in Manitoba. Embedded in the Physical Education and Healthy Lifestyles program and based on the Royal Academy of Dance curriculum, the Junior Dance Program ensures students can actively participate in the performing arts throughout their school experience.

Congratulations to Colleen Furlan, Grade 8, who was awarded the Rainbow Stage Trophy for Best Musical Theatre for all ages and categories in Manitoba.

Travelling the World

as a Part of the Global Young Leaders Conference

During the summer of 2006, two Balmoral Hall School students had the opportunity to travel the world as part of the Global Young Leaders Conference. Kathryn Marcynuk and K.K. Ho, both Grade 12 students, were nominated in 2005 to attend the conference which brings together outstanding young people from around the world to build critical leadership skills in a global context. Both students were able to choose from many exciting conference locations.

Kathryn chose to attend the Washington-New York conference. She writes, "Last summer I had the opportunity to attend the Washington-New York Global Young Leaders Conference in order to learn about governments, multilateral corporations, and how to live in a global community with people from different cultures.

The days were filled with multiple Leadership Group Meetings, site visits to Non-Governmental Organizations, as well as visits and speakers from international organizations like the International Monetary Fund and the United Nations.

Although many of these events were attended by all 360 students at once, we were assigned to smaller groups to better facilitate discussion. Each group represented a country in the UN. As a country, we prepared for the culminating event: a model United Nations Assembly held in the UN building itself known as the Global Summit. The Global Summit was similar to a UN Assembly where resolutions were put forth, debated, and ultimately voted on.

KK Ho on a bridge in Prague.

GYLC was an amazing experience to learn about leadership in the global community first hand by visiting the places where important global decisions are made. Most of all though, what made it so amazing was meeting people from all over the world and learning what makes us a global community."

K.K. chose to attend the Vienna, Budapest, Prague Conference. She writes, "At the conference, there were about 400 students, 60% of whom were from the United States, with the rest from countries such as Bahrain, Jamaica, South Africa, Netherlands, and Columbia. Students were placed into 18 groups which represented various countries in the world.

Among our many guest speakers were prominent politicians, former generals, and journalists. The most memorable presenter was British Peace activist Jeremy Gilley, the founder of Peace One Day.

In the simulations we participated in, I have learned the importance of delegation, and diplomacy. The conference overall was a great and fun experience. I can not wait for the chance to go to the upcoming Global Young Leaders Summit for conference alumni!"

Kathryn attends a baseball game in New York.

A Home Away From Home

Balmoral Hall School is excited to announce that the BH residence is at capacity for the current school year. Over 50 students from as close as Winnipeg and as far away as Asia call the BH residence home. Our current students come from Hong Kong, Taiwan, Korea, Japan, Mexico, China and, of course, Canada.

For the past five years, the Director of Admissions, Ms. Pamela McGhie, has represented BH at educational conferences, student forums, seminars and fairs in Taipei, Tianjin, Shenzhen, Shanghai, Seoul and Hong Kong. These occasions have given her the opportunity to interview new applicants and their families and visit with parents whose daughters are studying at BH or with alumnae and families who have returned to their home countries to live and work. Often they have introduced families who want to learn more about our wonderful School or have volunteered to contact potential students. Additionally, the Head of School, Ms. Claire Sumerlus, has travelled to cities in Italy, Russia, Germany, the UK and across Canada, hosting alumnae receptions and meeting with current parents and prospective students.

Balmoral Hall School is now in the process of reviewing applications, contacting prospective students and planning recruitment travel for the upcoming school year. Please let us know if you believe there may be an interest in the unique BH educational experience in your community. We would be happy to discuss recruitment opportunities—whether it be sending a prospectus to a referred family, or hosting an information session or reception in your neighbourhood.

Balmoral Hall School values its students, parents and alumnae connections around the world. All contribute to BH becoming a truly "International" school.

Ms Pamela McGhie has been the Director of Admissions at BH for the past 19 years. Please contact her directly at pmcghie@balmoralhall.com or by telephone at 204-784-1621.

What the Residence Students have to Say

"I have made a lot of friends from different counties with different cultures. I have had the opportunity to become a leader and learned how to respect others. I gained the maturity to be able to live independently and to make decisions by myself. By participating on BH sports teams, I learned to be a team player and was able to travel. The teachers at BH are very nice. They share their knowledge and experience with their students. They are willing to help us anytime we want."—*Sze Ki (Kimi) Wong, Grade 12 joins BH from Hong Kong*

"There are so many opportunities for students at BH. Classes are so interesting. Teachers don't just teach—we have the opportunity to participate and join in discussions. Meeting and living with people from other countries has been a great experience. I have a great balance between my life at BH and my life in Korea."—*Eun Jin Kwak, Grade 10 joins BH from Korea*

"One thing I will treasure from my time at BH is my yearbook because when I look at it I can see all the special BH girls and teachers that I will never forget. Looking at it I can see moments that we had together and the adventures that I had. I think that this year is a wonderful opportunity to know myself and how I am. It is difficult being away from my family, my home, and my routine but the work I do here is not just for me, it is for my family too. I am really proud of it because I came here and met a lot of new people."—*Natalia Lemus Gómez de León, Grade 7 joins BH from Mexico*

"My first year at BH was an eye-opening experience! I made a lot of friends who have different cultural backgrounds and was able to learn a bit of their language. My teachers have been very willing to help me as an international student with my schoolwork and encouraged me to join extra curricular activities. I love to sing and enjoy choir practice every other day. All in all, I am glad that I chose BH to finish my high school education."
—*Sung En (Marianne) Wei, Grade 10 joins BH from Taiwan*

"The experience of studying at BH is exciting and fun. All the students can discover their own talents and get involved in tons of fantastic activities. The staff members are amazing. They help you not only in academic areas, but also in becoming a well-rounded person. Residence is just like a big family and you can make friends from all over the world! The time I spent at BH and the wonderful memories I share with my friends will always be close to my heart!"—*Chi (Jessy) Gao, Grade 12 joins BH from China*

Back row l-r: Natalia Lemus Gómez de León, Eun Jin Kwak, Chi (Jessy) Gao Front row l-r: Ms. Pamela McGhie and Sung En (Marianne) Wei

An Incredible Donation

Balmoral Hall School is an incredible place where every day you get to see students, teachers and parents working towards building the best educational experience available—anywhere in the world. It's become a fairly common occurrence that when prospective students and families arrive they start to talk about the wonderful feeling they get when they walk into our School. Sometimes, I fear that those of us, staff and parents, involved each and every day, might start to take Balmoral Hall School for granted.

But at a special Buddies Assembly, held on November 27, 2006 my fears were put to rest. It was at this event that all the students received a very personal and special gift from a family who give generously to BH each day with their gifts of time, talents and treasure. On this day over 460 BH girls (and a few boys) received a handmade, sterling silver bracelet generously donated by Lisa Soloman and Matthew Guberman (parents of Jane Grade 4).

Why such a generous gift? Well the answer was simply to show how much they appreciate this wonderful learning community and to find a way to express the incredible link that binds BH girls together—well beyond their school days. The bracelet signifies the uniqueness of every student. It serves as a constant reminder that just as the bracelet is only as strong as the links that hold it together, the girls of Balmoral Hall although strong by themselves are unstoppable when they join together. They also designed a series of one-of-a-kind charms with all proceeds going to help provide the many enhancements that make Balmoral Hall School one of the leading educational institutions in the country for girls and young women.

I-r: Carissa Nikkel '02, Ms. Fulton-Baillie

Terry Fulton Baillie Fund Fuels Fundraising at BH!

Rebecca Lechman '95, Alumnae Association President

If you stopped into BH today you would see a school that has embraced a global perspective and is reaching out, not just across the street, but across the world. You would see an educational experience that attains the highest international standards.

Every day, BH alumnae are making their mark around the globe. They are women of vision, initiative and generosity of spirit. The Alumnae Future Generations Fund, was created in 2005 to ensure that daughters and granddaughters of alumnae would never be turned away due to financial need. It has received tremendous support in its first year from alumnae and their parents. With over $25,000 now endowed at The Winnipeg Foundation, our goal is to build the fund so that it can disburse an annual scholarship to support the education of an alum's child who might otherwise not be able to attend BH. This means however that each full tuition requires an investment of $250,000. I am confident that if each alum can give something—anything, through our shear size we can easily achieve this goal.

It comes as no surprise to those of us who have experienced both our struggles and our successes in the classroom of Terry Fulton, one of BH's most highly respected teachers, that she has taken her support a step further. This year she has committed herself to building a scholarship for girls from rural Manitoba. Terry Fulton has spent her career at BH working with students to believe, achieve and succeed. Her dream is that with the Terry Fulton Baillie Scholarship, young women full of promise and passion in rural Manitoba will find their place at BH. Thank you to those BH alums and the friends of BH who have already made their contributions. As our very first alumna contributor, Carissa Nikkel '02, stated when she made her donation at the Home for the Holidays reception —***"Mrs. Baillie played a significant role in my life at BH and I am very pleased to give back to a woman who has given so much to me over the years."***

Meet Your Board of Governors

The Difference is YOU

A truly great school must rely on support over and above fees if it hopes to maintain its high standards and excel. The Annual Fund provides the enhancements that make our school one of the leading educational institutions for girls and young women in the country.

The donations that have been received this year have had an immediate impact on the educational experience of BH students already! To date we have received donations which have been directed to several classroom libraries, math and language arts materials, science and music equipment and technology. Donations have also been made to Performing Arts and Athletics. Among the many funds in need of support, the most common choice made by parents is the Head's Fund (over 70% of gifts have been directed to this fund). By making a gift to the Head's Fund, you provide the School with flexibility to meet the areas of greatest need on an annual basis. These gifts may then be allocated towards unanticipated areas of opportunity that benefit all students.

Thank you to the parents and alumnae who have made a gift to the 2006–07 Annual Fund. The campaign runs until June 30th, 2007 and we invite all parents and alumnae who have yet to participate, to consider a gift to BH.

How much is enough?

The size of your annual gift is a personal decision. We urge you to consider making a gift that feels right for you. Please be assured that we appreciate your generosity at all levels and encourage everyone to participate in the Annual Fund this year!

James R. Morden, Chair
Cleo '06, Macy class of 2008, and Jaunty class of 2010.

Connected to BH for 13 years, Jim has spent the past 5 years on the Balmoral Hall School (BH) Board of Governors as Advancement Chair (2 years), Vice Chair (1 year), currently on the Audit and Risk Management committee as well as chair of Governance and Nominating. Other 2007 volunteer commitments include the United Way Major Gift Cabinet, the Canadian Cancer Society Annual Gala Ball as Honourary Chair and the HSC Siemens Institute for Advanced Medicine building committee. Previously, Jim served on the Boards of Winserv and the Winnipeg Art Gallery, and was a major supporter of the Winnipeg Humane Society building campaign.

Earning a B. Comm. Finance, Honours, from the University of Manitoba—Asper School of Business, Jim, a founding partner of Assante Corporation, is presently a principal with Harrow Partners Ltd and a board director of Canterbury Park Capital Fund LP.

Chrys Pappas, Q.C., Past Chair
Elizabeth class of 2012

Chrys has a 9 year connection with BH, and has dedicated 7 years to the Board of Governors. In 2002 his leadership was instrumental to the success of the Debt Reduction initiative. Currently Past Chair and a member of the Governance and Appeal Committees, Chrys dedicated himself to an extended term as Chair of the Board from 2003 to 2006. His 2007 commitments outside of BH include director positions for the Winnipeg Football Club, the Western Canada Pictorial Index, the Canadian Bar Insurance Association and the CBAF Financial Services Corp. Chrys holds the honour of a Life Bencher, Law Society of Manitoba and a Life Member of Council of Manitoba Branch of Canadian Bar Association. A Barrister and Solicitor since 1968, Chrys is a Senior Partner of Thompson Dorfman Sweatman LLP.

John Alexander
Megan class of 2008, Rebecca class of 2011

Almost a BH lifer himself, John's daughters both started at BH in Junior Kindergarten so he has been connected to BH for the past 10 years. However his connection actually started many years earlier as his four sisters all attended BH and his father, Norman Alexander, served on the Board and the Advisory Board of BH. Following in his father's footsteps, John has been on the Board since 2005 with responsibilities as Chair of Human Resources and Compensation as well as on the Advancement committee assisting with the Yes She Can Award Dinner. He has a lengthy history of volunteering in Winnipeg as Co-chair of Share our Strengths (S.O.S). John has spent years in sales and marketing and is currently a part owner of Mariner Neptune.

Paul Beatty

Paul is in his first year on the Balmoral Hall School Board of Governors, chairing the Audit and Risk Management Committee. Currently a member of both the Canadian Tax Foundation and the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Manitoba, he is also a tutor for the CICA In-Depth Tax Course and a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountant of Manitoba's Taxation Committee. Previously Paul worked as a volunteer with Junior Achievement. A senior manager at KPMG, specializing in income tax, Paul earned his B. Comm., Honours, from the University of Manitoba—Asper School of Business and is a Chartered Accountant.

Beth Brunsdon-Clark
Julie class of 2009

Committed to the all-girls educational experience offered by BH, Beth enrolled daughter Julie in Junior Kindergarten in September 1995 and has been actively involved ever since. Now in her fourth year on the Board of Governors, Beth has lent her extensive expertise gained from the hospital administration sector to the Human Resources and Compensation committee and to Governance and Nominating at BH. Her volunteer experience includes positions on the College of Registered Nurses of Manitoba and Mount Carmel Clinic, Boards of Trustees. A Registered Nurse, she started in 2001 as Vice President, Programs & Patient Services and Chief Nursing Officer at Victoria General Hospital. Previous positions include Director of Women's Hospital from 1995 to 2001 and from 1997 to 2002, Director Women's Health Program with the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority.

Arman Glodjo
Talia, class of 2009

Arman joined the Board in 2003 and presently serves on the Audit and Risk Management committee. He is the Chairman of several investment management companies, managing several hedge-funds. Arman is a Ph.D. candidate in Finance at Fuqua School of Business at Duke University, Durham, North Carolina. His dissertation is titled "Kolmogorov Complexity of Fully Reflexive Systems, Generalized Hyperbolic Generalized Mixed-Inverse Gaussian and other Convolutions Autoregressive Conditional Extrema Hazard Models and their Applications." Graduating with honours in May 1989 from the University of Manitoba in mathematics, Arman went on to earn two Master of Science degrees, one an interdisciplinary masters program in applied mathematics and electrical engineering from the University of Manitoba in 1992 and the other in computer science from Duke University in 1995. Arman is an adjunct Professor, Department of Applied Computer Science and Administrative Studies at the University of Winnipeg and a resident of Tucker's Town, Bermuda.

Paul Jacuzzi
Robin, class of 2007 and Head Girl

Paul is in his second term on the Board of Governors, serving on the Audit and Risk Management committee as well as Chair of the Discipline committee. A graduate of University of Western Ontario and McMaster University earning his MBA, Paul has over 23 years of management experience, most while holding general management positions in major Canadian manufacturing and distribution companies in the waterworks and general plumbing industries. An active community supporter, Paul is currently President of the Italian Chamber of Commerce of Manitoba and on Boards of Governors for the BBB of Manitoba and NW Ontario. Paul is President and CEO of Waterite Technologies, Inc.

Rebecca Lechman '95

Head Girl of BH in 1995, Rebecca now serves as President of the Alumnae Association and is in her first year on the Board of Governors. She is a member of the Advancement Committee, Co-Chairing the 2007 Yes She Can Award Dinner. A science graduate from the University of Manitoba, Rebecca returned to BH for three years, living and working in the residence as Dean of Middle Year's Students. After a brief move to Newfoundland, Rebecca returned to hometown Winnipeg and is a Family Services Counselor for Thomson on Broadway and Thomson in the Park Funeral Home and Cemetery. Active in the Winnipeg community, Rebecca lends a helping hand to numerous initiatives including Winnipeg Harvest, and the Winnipeg Fringe Festival.

Lawrence Prendiville
Karlen class of 2008, Jacklyn class of 2010, and Michelle class of 2013.

With his eldest daughter starting at BH in 1994 and his youngest graduating in 2013 Lawrence is a great supporter of BH and joins the ranks of dedicated BH parents who consider themselves to be lifers. Lawrence joined the Board of Governors in 2001 and will conclude his final term this spring. Participating on several committees over his Board tenure including the 2004–09 Strategic Plan—A time to Lead, Lawrence now sits on the Appeals Panel. For over 30 years he has committed himself to the family owned and operated business, Prendiville Industries, where he serves a Managing Director. Always active in the community, Lawrence supports his profession with his role as Director on the Forest Industry Association of Manitoba (FIAM).

Heather Richardson
Celine, class of 2015

A long-standing tradition of commitment and support exists between the Richardson Family, Balmoral Hall and its founding schools. With generations of Richardson family members, both boys and girls, having walked the School's hallowed halls, it was very special when the connection was enhanced with Heather joining the Board of Governors in 2005. Heather Co-Chaired the Yes She Can Award Dinner in 2006 and now chairs the Advancement committee, who oversee this highly successful annual event. She also sits on the Discipline committee. Heather serves on St. John's College Council. Past volunteer experiences include that of a board member with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, the Women's' Health Research Foundation and on the St. John's Ravenscourt Guild. Earning her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Manitoba, Heather went on to receive her Masters of Arts in Economics from the University of Toronto.

Chrystal Robert
Aurora Robert, class of 2015

Representing the Parent Association on the Board of Governors, Chrystal is currently in her first year as President of the BHPA. Since her daughter joined BH in Junior Kindergarten, Chrystal has been an active member on the BHPA in addition to volunteering at many community causes through her workplace such as the Cerebral Palsy Bike Race, Terry Fox Run, Manitoba Marathon, and Friendship Day at Assiniboine Park. Employed by Manitoba Lotteries Corporation since 1993, Crystal currently heads up the department responsible for Lottery Tickets, Bingo paper and Breakopen tickets for Manitoba. While with Lotteries, she earned her Executive Development in Gaming certificate, which is an international program run by the University of Nevada. Currently there are less than 100 women internationally that hold this certificate.

Corrine Scott
Kaitlyn, class of 2014

Corrine has been a BH parent since her daughter enrolled in Junior Kindergarten five years ago. Active in many areas of the school community, Corrine was appointed to the Board of Governors in 2006 and is a member of the Human Resources & Compensation Committee as well as the Discipline Committee.

Corrine has been with the Winnipeg Police Service since 1981. She has worked in uniform patrol, the Traffic Division, the Drug Squad, the Criminal Investigation Bureau and the Communications Division.

Corrine currently holds the rank of Superintendent; she is a member of the Executive Management Team and is currently in charge of all uniform operations. Corrine has a Bachelor of Commerce Honours degree from the University of Manitoba and an MBA from Athabasca University.

Charlotte Sytnyk
Sarah, class of 2013 and Shelby, class of 2016

A key contributor to the BHPA, co-chairing six annual dinner, dance and auctions, Charlotte joined the Board of Governors four years ago and serves on the Appeals Panel and the Advancement Committee, where she has contributed to the success of the Board of Governor's annual Yes She Can Award Dinner. Charlotte is a fourth generation Lake of the Woods cottage owner and cherishes spending time with her family at the lake. Together with John

Alexander, they will combine their passion for Lake of the Woods and their support for BH with the organization of Balmoral Hall School's first summer get together for BH Family and Friends, coming this July 21, 2007 (watch for details on the BH website). Charlotte is active with CancerCare Manitoba both on the Prostate Dinner and the Weekend to End Breast Cancer, as well as the Pan Am Clinic Gala. She is almna of Alpha Delta Pi Sorority and is an advisor with the Active Chapter. Charlotte is Executive Assistant and Controller for her husband Glen Sytnyk and his Real Estate business.

Douglas John Thomson
Ella, class of 2013

Doug is in his fifth year on the Board of Governors and currently serves on the Human Resources & Compensation and Discipline committees. Previous service on the building committee has evolved into assistance with the development of a campus planning process that is currently looking at the future of the Balmoral Hall School campus. Doug also serves on the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada advisory board for the Nano-(Science and Technology) Program and as a member of the research management committee of ISIS Canada, a research network dedicated to finding solutions to Canada's civil infrastructure problems. A Professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Manitoba he has also served as the Chief Technology Officer and member of the board of directors for a Silicon Valley startup (MFI Technology) and as the Associate Dean for the Faculty of Engineering.

John Webster
Stephanie, class of 2010 and son Alexander grade 7, SJR (also attend BH in JK and K)

This is John's first year on the Board of Governors. An extensive background in marketing and a long history of being very active in the BH community, John's expertise is now being shared with the Advancement Committee addressing both fundraising and marketing/recruitment needs. A key contributor to the Yes She Can Award Dinner since its inception in 2002, John will Co-chair the 2007 event with board member and Alumnae President, Rebecca Lechman. John has had previous board experience with the St. Andrew's Society of Winnipeg and with the Pan-Am Diving Club of Winnipeg. He is Vice President of Sales and Marketing and Co-Owner of Manrex Limited, a 100% Canadian company specializing in Medication Delivery Systems. John has been involved in the pharmaceutical and healthcare marketplace in various roles involving sales, marketing and product management, since he graduated from the University of Manitoba's Physical Education faculty in 1982.

Wanda S. Zajac
Ashley '02, Robyn class of 2008 and Nicholas grade 6, SJR (also attended BH in JK and K)

Wanda has spent ten years on the BH Parent Association in numerous chair positions and most recently serving as President from 2004 to 2006. Now in her third year on the Board of Governors, Wanda's spent her first two years representing the Parent Association. Now, the Past President of the BHPA, Wanda remains active in all areas as well as responsible for nominations to the BHPA. She begins her first year of a three year term on the Board of Governors, currently serving on the Audit and Risk Management and Governance committees. In addition to her long term commitment to BH she served 2 years on the Glendale Golf and Country Club BOG as Tennis Chair. For the 2007/08 school year Wanda has joined the Advancement team to cover a maternity leave in the department. With her extensive knowledge of the BH parent community, Wanda is focused on the Annual Fund Campaign and has been very successful in raising parent participation. Past work experience includes positions as a Registered Nurse, and in Sales and Marketing with Kraft General Foods.

Darcy Zaporzan
Olivia, class of 2008

With their daughter one year away from being a BH Lifer, The Zaporzan Family have been long time supporters of Balmoral Hall School. Darcy, now in his second year on the Board of Governors, serves on the Governance & Nominating as well as the Advancement committees of the Board. His many years of experience in independent school governance have been a great asset to the BH Board. Supportive of the not-for profit sector, Darcy's other community endeavours include The Canadian Museum for Human Rights and the United Way. Managing money for more than 25 years, he is the Head of Darcy Zaporzan Wealth Management Group, an investment management firm within RBC Dominion Securities, of which he is a Vice-President and Director. Darcy graduated from the University of Winnipeg with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History & Economics.

An Outstanding Head of School

As Chair of the Balmoral Hall School Board of Governors, I am pleased to share with the Balmoral Hall School community, the attached letter.

The nomination referred to in the letter is the end result of a capstone project embarked upon by students at the Teachers College at Columbia University. "What makes an outstanding school head?" was the central focus for students in the Klingenstein Center's master's degree program in Private School Leadership at the College. Prominent educators and leaders in the independent school community were asked to nominate outstanding school heads with whom they have interacted during their careers. Claire Sumerlus is part of a small group of school heads nominated by her peers and colleagues in different parts of the country.

Please join me as members of the BH family, and Board of Governors, in congratulating Claire on this most honourable nomination, acknowledging her achievements.

Sincerely,

James R. Morden
Chair,
Balmoral Hall School
Board of Governors

Klingenstein Center
for Independent School Education

TEACHERS COLLEGE ◆ COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

525 West 120th Steet
Box 125
New York, NY 10027
Tel: 212-678-3156
Fax: 212-678-3254
http://klingenstein.org

Mr. James Morden
Chair, Balmoral Hall School

Dear Mr. Morden:

I am a professor at Teachers College, Columbia University where I direct the Klingenstein Center for Independent School Education. The Center's efforts are aimed at developing leaders for independent schools. Recently we asked prominent educators and leaders in the independent school community to nominate outstanding school heads with whom they have worked throughout their careers. I am pleased to let you know that Claire Sumerlus was nominated as an outstanding head of school through this process. We thought you would want to know that Ms. Sumerlus is highly regarded among independent school heads. Please accept my warm congratulations to you and Balmoral Hall School on this recognition.

Thank you for the contribution you make to strengthening independent schools.

Pearl Rock Kane

In Memoriam

Mr. Thomas Russell 1928 – 2006

Mr. Russell was born in England on December 28, 1928. He and his wife Janet moved to Winnipeg during the summer of 1976, where Mr. Russell became Headmaster of BH. He lived with his family in what he referred to as the heart of the school—Aikins House. During his time at the School, Mr. Russell prided himself in knowing most of the students by name. He was a wonderful Headmaster who will be missed by many.

"Mr. Russell was the headmaster when I was at BH for my Grade 12 year. The first and foremost thing for me was the respectful manner in which he treated us as students. In turn, we students respected him. We were a goofy bunch of Grade 12 kids, but respect was always present as a two-way street. Mr. Russell had a gift as an educator. I know it came to me as a shock when I left BH & found out that was not true of other administrators. I wish his family peace and wonderful memories of him."
—Susan (Briercliffe) Hochhalter '77

"I graduated in 1986, Mr. Russell's final year as Headmaster. I have fond memories of him, especially our "Learning How to Learn" class! To this day, every time I have to remember a phone number without a pen available, I remember his technique of memorizing the first three digits and just "visioning" the last four digits! When I was in Grade 11, he encouraged me to apply for Rotary's Adventure in Citizenship, which was a trip to Ottawa with hundreds of other students from across Canada. I did go through the application process and was selected to represent one of the Rotary clubs here in Winnipeg and not only had a great time, but appreciated Mr. Russell's confidence in my ability to represent our school well!"
—Angela Hilland '86

"I have fond memories of Mr. Russell and his 'Learning How to Learn' class. This class was taught in Aikins House. He brought much enthusiasm to the innovative curriculum. I remember the speed reading section of the class. Here we challenged our capacity to take in and recall detailed information very quickly. He truly loved his vocation and the challenge he was able to provide. He was a talented Headmaster. I would like to pass on my condolences to his family and friends." ***—Vicki Janzen '81***

Mrs. Allison Chown 1909 – 2007

Mrs. Chown at the '87 reunion

Allison Chown passed away peacefully in Victoria on January 17, 2007. Mrs. Chown was a teacher who was loved by all of her students. The best tribute to her time at Riverbend and Balmoral Hall are the memories that alumnae have sent in to the School.

"Allison Chown had such a passion for English Literature and such a gift for teaching that many of her students were inspired for a lifetime. In her classes, poetry, prose and drama came to life. We learned the language of literature: imagery, metaphor, simile, metonymy and onomatopoeia. We became acquainted with Robert Frost, Shakespeare, Jane Austen and Thomas Hardy. She encouraged extensive reading and independent thought. She critiqued our compositions with sensitivity and constructive suggestions. English was more than a subject; for me, it became a key to understanding life.

One day, near the end of Grade 11, she called me aside, saying that she wanted to have a talk. With quiet dignity she said simply, "I want to have a stake in your future." I wondered what she meant. "I'd like to recommend you for a scholarship at the Banff School of Fine Arts for a painting course this summer. Would you like to go?" How did she even know of my other great interest? Art and literature were both in my blood. To have such an unexpected vote of confidence was a life-changing moment. Without the scholarship, the cost would have been unthinkable. Those six weeks of art in the mountains were the beginning of a life linked to art, as it has also been to literature. Thank you, Mrs. Chown".
—Signe Salzberg BH '60

"Mrs. Chown and her family lived just down from Balmoral Hall. Boarders knew that the "Tuesday Room" at Mrs. Chown's was open for visitors after school each day. We would sit in this little den pouring out our hearts to Mrs. Chown, who in turn would listen quietly and occasionally lend her advice.

I remember several instances when my boarding cohorts Dora, Millie and Marged would join me with Mrs. Chown in her Tuesday Room. On occasion, we were miffed or confused by yet another rule at school and felt we simply had to share the inequities with her. Mrs. Chown would listen with great intent trying to give us reasons why the rule might be in place, and offering suggestions as to why we perhaps should consider heeding the new rule. Never putting us down, never patronizing us, she always encouraged us to look at life with a fresh pair of eyes. She often was our ally, yet taught us to think about the world from an angle not focused on ourselves.

Her voice was so soft; her diction gentle yet perfect. She could mesmerize me reading a sonnet from Shakespeare or Browning, and delighted in teasing us with Chaucer's naughty Canterbury Tales. There was purpose to each of her classes.

This was a woman born to teach. Her teaching did not have to be in a classroom—she just wanted to share her life experiences and her knowledge with anyone willing to soak them up. I was a beneficiary of much of what she offered, and I feel that part of who I am today is due to my mentor, my ally, my friend and my teacher, Allison Grant Chown".
—Linda (Leach) Radcliffe BH '63

Remembering BH's History 50 Years After Graduation

Close friends during their years at the school, Jane (Mathewson) Regehr, Gayle (McLean) McPherson, Daphne (Smith) Ethans, Diane (Smith) Taylor and Joy McDiarmid have stayed in touch ever since. Last June, Gayle wrote to the others from Scotland, which happened to be the 50th anniversary of their graduation in 1956. Thanks to Joy, we are able to share excerpts of her letter.

Hi dear old friends,
Just back from 3 weeks away—stayed a few days in London, then headed up north to Scotland where I went on a "pilgrimage" to Balmoral Castle! It's situated in the middle of nowhere and in very rough and mountainous country between the 2 towns of Braemar & Ballater, nestled at the foot of Craig Gowan (a mountain in the Cairngorm range); and Glen Gairn is a valley that runs through the estate—(we stayed at a bed & breakfast at "the Bridge of Gairn" which is a little hamlet nearby). Thought you might be interested in all that trivia! I can honestly remember in Grade 6 when they created Balmoral Hall out of Riverbend and Rupert's Land and had a competition (amongst the parents I think) to name the four houses! An absolute highlight for me was riding with the Queen's head girl, Fiona, at Balmoral Castle (55,000 acres!) The stables are very modest and workmanlike—mounting block needed some nailing—all very homey! Rode for 2 hours—forests, along the Tay River —salmon river, crossed 2 tributaries —clear and shallow and fast flowing, a gallop up onto the moors—saw grouse and two large herds of red deer; beautiful trails through the woods. Then another gallop along the river with the Queen's herd of Highland cattle nearby. The Queen rides every single day when she's there in August & September. We rode past a smallish stone house in the woods (which is also named "Craig Gowan") that she uses when they nip up for a weekend. I honestly thought to myself that those 2 hours were the reason I learned how to ride. It was a dream for me.

I really did think of you all as I finally put a "face" to all those place names that were part of our collective history!!!

Love, Gayle

I-r: Daphne (Smith) Ethans, Gayle (McLean) McPherson, Joy McDiarmid, Jane (Mathewson) Regehr and Diane (Smith) Taylor at the '87 reunion

School Archives Houses a Wealth of Knowledge

Did you know that Balmoral Hall School has an Archives room? From Miss Dalton's hand-written memoir of her first days as Principal of Havergal Ladies College in 1901, to the videotape of Balmoral Hall's Centennial Reunion in 2002, the records of our history are collected and preserved in the School Archives.

Located on the second floor of Aikins House, the Archives serves as a resource centre for the school population, alumnae and community. Students can learn about their predecessors and trace the origins of cherished traditions, teachers are able to incorporate aspects of school history into studies of Manitoba's past, and researchers, writers and family historians find information needed for various projects.

The Archives is always available to our BH Family and alumnae. Lyn Stephen '57, School Archivist, will gladly display yearbooks and pieces of history from any time period. If you wish to visit the Archives, please phone Ginny Lechman '98 in the Advancement Office at (204) 784-1603 or email alumnae@balmoralhall.com

BH Travels the World to Visit Alumnae

Back Row l-r: Jennifer McQueen RLS '48, Louise (Coyle) Nelson '93, Claire Sumerlus, Rosa Rayner RIV '44
Front Row l-r: Marianne Hollamby RLS '48, Joy Tredennick RLS '48, Marigold Mann RIV '42, Anne Duffin RLS '43, Valerie Halland RLS '48 at the UK Alumnae Reception.

In late 2006 and early 2007, Tina Alto, Director of Advancement and Claire Sumerlus, Head of School held alumnae receptions in Calgary, Ottawa and Europe. The trip to Europe was especially exciting as many alums had not been together since 2004.

Thank you to everyone who joined us at these events!

l-r: Rosa Raynor RIV '44 and Marigold Mann RIV '42 enjoy tea at the UK alumnae reception.

Lorraine (Allison) Ellis '64, Kirby (Smith) Poscente '75, Claire Sumerlus, Frances (MacCharles) Jukes RLS '42, Andrea Rivalin '82, Hilary (Carter) Alto '74 at the Calgary Alumnae Reception.

l-r: Sarah Gravelines '01, Danielle Guenette '06, Lisa Gregory '06, Kiran Dhillon '06, Sarry Klein '06 and Rebecca Lechman '95

What's the Deal?

In October 2006, Balmoral Hall School hosted the annual Real Deal University Spiel. Six alumnae from across Canada joined Grade 12 students at the Winnipeg Winter Club to share their university experiences. Topics discussed this year included textbooks, Grade Point Averages, residence as well as specific fields of study. Everyone was then invited to stay and watch the BH Blazers Prep Hockey Team compete on home ice at their Inaugural Hockey Tournament.

Balmoral Hall School would like to thank all alumnae who attended this event. The advice and experiences they shared with our Grade 12 students was very valuable.

Sarah Gravelines '01 shares her experiences with current Grade 12 students.

10 Years of Memories for the Class of 1996

On July 28, 2006, Nina (Battison) Patel '96, Francoise Vouriot '96, and Allyson Cooper '96 met at BH for their 10 year reunion. Although disappointed that more classmates could not join them, they decided to make the most of their visit. They took a tour of the School to view the latest improvements and then visited the School Archives. It was in the archives room that the memories began to flood back. Lyn Stephen '57, School Archivist, had arranged a lovely display including the Class of 1996 time capsule and yearbooks.

It was decided that the time capsule should be opened as it was meant to be opened after 10 years. Inside, Nina, Francoise and Allyson were surprised to see so many items collected by their classmates. Many graduates had written themselves notes which were passed onto the Alumnae Office and later mailed to the absent alumnae. There were also many communal additions to the time capsule such as notes from teachers, a slideshow set to music and newspaper clippings. These items were placed back in the time capsule with hope that another reunion will be held in 5 or 10 years and more of the class will be able to attend.

Thank you Nina, Francoise and Allyson for taking the time to spend the afternoon at the School!

Congratulations to Alumnae Celebrating their Reunion Years!

The Graduating Class of Riverbend 1947

The Graduating Class of Rupert's Land 1947

The Graduating Class of 1957

The Graduating Class of 1967

The Graduating Class of 1977 – Balmoral Hall School is missing a copy of the 1977 graduation photo. If you have one in your possesion that we could copy and return, please contact Ginny Lechman '98 in the Advancement Office at (204) 784-1603

The Graduating Class of 1987

The Graduating Class of 1997

Balmoral Hall School will be hosting a special **Alumnae Assembly Friday, April 13th at 11 a.m.** We would like to invite all alumnae to join us on this special day. We are honouring alumnae who are celebrating their 10th, 20th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th reunions! We will also welcome the newest members of our Alumnae, the current Grade 12 class.

A reunion luncheon with take place following the assembly where alumnae can share fond memories with classmates.

Invitations will be mailed to alumnae celebrating their reunion years, however we encourage all alumnae to join us.

Please watch the alumnae section of the BH website (www.balmoralhall.com/alumnaenews.htm) for more details. For more information, please contact Ginny Lechman '98 at (204) 784-1603 or alumnae@balmoralhall.com

Home for the Holidays 2006

Alumnae from 1995–2006 gathered in Aikins House in December 2006 for the annual Home for the Holidays celebration. Home for the Holidays is held when young alums are typically home to visit family for the holiday season.

This year, alumnae enjoyed wine, sushi and a lot of reminiscing! Thank you to everyone who joined us for this special evening. We look forward to another great event next year.

l-r: Caroline Monnin '02, Natalie Smith '02, Hilary Moir '02

l-r: Mrs. Friesen, Kristine Wilson '04, Mrs. Greenhill

l-r: Ryann (Jessiman) Doucette '97, Alana Miller '98, Courtney (Moir) Morris '98

Back l-r: Ms. Wilkes, Alexis Kozak '06, Danielle Guenette '06, Lisa Gregory '06, Sameera Abdulrehman '06, Katie Murray '06 Front l-r: Kiran Dhillon '06, Ms. Kirk

l-r: Maria Reimer '95 and Rebecca Lechman '95, Alumnae President

An Inside Look

The Hottest (and Greenest) Thing in Town!

A Profile of Ryann (Jessiman) Doucette '97

Balmoral Hall School's history spans over a century. In its lifetime, the School has graduated hundreds of young women who have gone on to make their mark on local and international fronts. Four alumnae share with the BH community how they are striving to live a healthy life through exercise, education and work.

Yes, though my kilt wearing days are over, it seems that my passion for green continues. Let me explain: I am in the process of opening Winnipeg's first hot Moksha Yoga studio, along with my business partner Amy. One of the major objectives of our studio is to maintain a business that is as green or as environmentally sustainable as possible. Using organic cotton towels, eco-friendly mats, non-toxic cleaners, environmental heating panels, sustainable cork flooring, and donating monthly to an organization called Zero Footprint are some of the things we have done to stay true to this goal.

When I read back through my BH Grade 6 journals, my goals were to be either a hiking guide or gym teacher when I grew up (and to marry Thomas Steen, of course). There has always been a magic for me in physical movement of all kinds, from team sports, to distance running, to wrestling, but when I found Moksha Yoga, it was an experience on a different level. From the first class I took in Toronto five years ago, my biggest dream has been to become a teacher and bring this style of yoga to Winnipeg.

Moksha Yoga is a series of 40 yoga postures practiced in a room that is heated to 37 degrees. The heat allows for a deeper, safer stretch, provides detoxification through sweating, and increases the heart rate, making it a cardiovascular workout. While some studies estimate that the average participant burns 800 calories in an average 90 minute class, the benefits go far, far beyond calories. While each individual will have a unique experience, some of the benefits of a regular yoga practice include weight loss, increased flexibility and strength, decreased stress, reduced lower back and joint pain, strengthening of the immune system, and increased energy.

An additional benefit of my yoga practice has been reconnecting with BH alumnae: working at lululemon with Meagan McCrea '00 and Amory Steek '00, having KK Pinkowski '94 as lawyer for our studio documents, and hiring Sam Manchulenko '94 to teach pilates at our studio!

We are opening in March and hope to see many familiar faces there! Come rekindle your fond memories of green and make a commitment to a healthier lifestyle. If you require more information about Moksha yoga or how you can improve your fitness, please contact me at ryann@mokshayogawinnipeg.com.

The Ironcop Crown —Anything is Possible

A profile of Michelle Ball '87

"When I grow up I want to be..." was a standard question in my elementary "School Daze" scrapbook. Beginning in Grade 2, I filled in "a lawyer". Being only seven years old, I knew nothing much more than my Dad was a lawyer when we lived in Estevan, Saskatchewan and I wanted to be one too someday. Twenty years later, I joined the Federal Crown upon graduating from UBC Law School and I am presently counsel with the Public Prosecution Service of Canada.

As Federal Crown Counsel with the Public Prosecution Service of Canada, I work with police and other enforcement agencies to carry out prosecutions under federal laws. I have been involved in many different types of cases but invariably the work has been interesting and immensely rewarding. It has also been demanding. For years in a prolonged arduous trial, I toted boxes and briefcases between the office, courthouse, truck, and home. I was exhausted yet not sleeping. Thinking back to my years at BH, I remembered always having a myriad of interests outside academics—friends, music, art, and a lot of sports. In comparison, I was struck by how little else I did but work. Although I could capably balance the demands of the job, I badly needed to put balance back in my life.

Determined to regain my fitness, I walked into a local running store in the fall of 2003 and ran out with my first of many pairs of Mizunos. In addition to the health benefits, running led me to stunningly beautiful places like the trails in the rainforest near UBC, the path along Jericho Beach, the Stanley Park seawall. These places were surprisingly close yet I had failed to appreciate them despite having moved to Vancouver 12 years earlier. Unfortunately the next summer I was struck again—this time by a taxi. Although crushed to have to bench my running shoes, I was given the medical nod to cycle and swim. So I tuned up my old high school Bianchi and hit the pavement. I got a new swimsuit and dove into a public pool. In 2005, I started to run again (and cycle and swim) with an "Ironcop". When I learned that Ironcops for Cancer is a group of police and friends dedicated to finding a cure for cancer while training to compete in Ironman, the new road I was on turned into a highway.

I drove to Penticton to watch an incredible event that I previously knew little about but found unbelievably motivating and inspiring. The community and athletes support each other in accomplishing a goal that seems by description impossible: swim 3.8 km, bike 180 km, run 42.6 km. In Penticton, I saw proof that anything is possible. When I signed up to compete in Ironman with the Ironcops, I combined two lofty goals with little clue about the details needed to obtain them. At that time, I had yet to run more than a 10 km race or compete in a triathlon. I still had to buy a wetsuit, get a real bike, learn about endurance nutrition, figure out how to train for three sports, manage a busy and stressful career, and find time to fundraise. Despite so much to learn so quickly, I remained committed. What kept me focused? Cancer has taken the lives of several family members including all four grandparents. Given genetics and statistics, I believe it's simply a fact that my chances of getting cancer are high. Perhaps there will be a cure by then but maybe not. And if not me, there will be members of my family or close friends, colleagues, friends of friends ... undoubtedly, many in the "BH Family" know all too well the impacts of this disease. So, while I am healthy, I figure I should do my bit.

I'm thrilled to report that with the help of hundreds of people and their generous donations, the 2006 Ironcops for Cancer team raised over $1.3 Million dollars for the Canadian Cancer Society. I'm also delighted to report that I have a 2006 finisher's medal after successfully completing the Subaru Ironman Canada course in Penticton. I had so much fun that I smiled almost the entire 11

(Contunued on page 26)

...Anything is Possible (Con't)

hours and 6 minutes on course! Amidst the crowd, I managed to see and hear both my parents during each transition. Starting the run, I saw my Mom waving and cheering for me like she has done countless times before. A few meters further I saw my father who was smiling so hard he was laughing with tears in his eyes. I beamed back to thank them for being there, knowing that I would not have been there without the support of my friends and family.

As a bonus, I placed well (5th and 1st Canadian female in my age-group), and got a coveted Kona slot. Other than knowing that Kona was in Hawaii where Ironman began, I did not know much more. I learned that upwards of 50,000 competitors attempt to qualify from the US and countries around the world for the 1,700 age group spots. I learned that it's called the Ford Ironman World Championship... pause..."World Championship"? And I got to go!? Cool. I am excited to report that I have a 2006 Hawaii Ironman World Championship finisher's medal—totally unexpected from when I started this journey and further proof that anything is possible. You just have to find a focus and head towards it.

This year, I'll continue to train while I remain committed to my office. If you met my colleagues, you might think that all of us are training for Ironman. Like police officers, prosecutors are independent yet accountable, dedicated, driven, responsible and principled. All put in long hours, working under enormous stress and strain with barely time to recover before beginning the next long trial. Why? It certainly is not for money, fame, and glory. In a rarely credited but invaluable role, we work to promote the high standards and principles in the administration of criminal justice; to support the rule of law; to maintain the balance of the scales of justice.

My lifelong journey of learning began in 1962 when I started first grade at Balmoral Hall School. I spent ten wonderful years in a well-structured and well-rounded learning environment before attending the University of Winnipeg, Collegiate Division for grades 11 and 12. One of the greatest gifts that BH provided me was a love of learning. I also gained a strong sense of belief in myself and my capabilities, especially when faced with some of the challenges I encountered at university during my three engineering degrees.

When selecting my high school courses at the U of W, the associate dean informed me that girls don't take physics and that I would likely be the only girl in an all-boys class. Having spent the previous ten years at a school where it was an accepted fact that girls could do anything we wanted, I thankfully did not listen to him!

From high school, I went to the University of Manitoba and chose to do something girls don't do—by this I mean Engineering. I was one of 12 other women in first year and there were only 4 other women in the rest of the faculty. By the time I completed my last year of Civil Engineering, there were only 4 women out of approximately 200 students in the engineering graduating class. I must admit that the engineering degree was long and grueling especially when a few of the professors truly believed that women should not be engineers. After spending those long years in class from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. every day, I swore I would never go back to school.

Out of my fellow 200 male graduates, I found the perfect engineer for me. Right after our final exams, Jussi Alto and I were married at Westminster United Church before heading off to Calgary for our honeymoon. Two weeks later, we were back in Winnipeg to attend our convocation and after another week, we moved to Calgary to start our new life together.

Life Long Learning Taught at BH leads to Breast Cancer Imaging

A profile of Hilary (Carter) Alto '74

I worked in the oil industry as a reservoir engineer from 1979 to 1984 and in July of that year I had my first child. Between 1984 and 1988, I had three children who kept me amply busy. In 1991 with my kids all entering preschool and/or elementary school programs, I realized that I missed working and starting looking for a way to get back to my engineering roots. I took courses in AutoCad and in 1993 started taking courses in Geomatics Engineering at the University of Calgary. I had already been out of university for 14 years and out of the workplace for 9 years. In order to get a job, the easiest way seemed to get another degree so I went back to school. In 1996, I graduated with a Master of Science in Geomatics Engineering with a focus on photogrammetry and remote sensing. My thesis was on stereomammography or stereo imaging of mammograms using mathematical modeling to develop 3D images out of 2D images in order to better identify clusters of microcalcifications which are a primary indicator of breast cancer. During the last year of my Masters studies, I lost a friend to breast cancer. She left behind two boys who were close in age to my children. Once again my degree required long days in class and long nights working on projects so after completing it, I again swore I would never go back to school. I truly believed that with all the funding and great research that was being undertaken, a cure for breast cancer was on the horizon.

I started my own consulting firm, Alto Consulting Inc., and worked for a couple of companies evaluating leading edge technologies. However, after two years in the industry, I found myself spending more and more time at the university discussing new technologies for computer-aided detection and diagnosis of breast cancer. Going against all reason, at some point I blurted out that "I might consider doing a PhD". This was in August 1998 and within two weeks I was taking Biomedical Engineering courses and was enrolled as the only female PhD student in Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Calgary. In the spring of 2003, I completed my PhD. My thesis was "Indexed atlas for computer aided diagnosis of breast cancer".

I am now working with the National Research Council's Institute for Biodiagnostics (West) in Calgary. I am a Scientific and Business Support Officer. In this position, I am able to do research as well as work on bringing some of the new medical devices being developed into the marketplace. I am a co-investigator in a Magnetic Resonance Imaging study for breast cancer which is being conducted out of NRC's facility in Winnipeg. I will evaluate the shape of breast masses and correlate them with the corresponding biopsy results. I am also working with a researcher from Brazil who has developed a web-based breast imaging database that will allow subject information such as mammograms, MR images, ultrasound images, and associated medical histories to be viewed in a more inclusive way. So far, the majority of breast cancer research has focused on very narrow and specific aspects of the disease. With all of the great breast cancer research that has been done, it is time to take a comprehensive approach to understanding this disease.

Although I left BH after Grade 10, I found I was noticeably more advanced academically and in many ways socially than most of my contemporaries. I have come to really appreciate the privileged start that BH provided me. I now also recognize that my insatiable thirst for knowledge was instilled at BH along with a strong belief that we should always use our talents as constructively as possible for the benefit of society. Breast cancer research is where I am applying my talents. In that vein, we are always looking for women who want to make a difference by participating in our studies or sharing their medical images and histories. *If you are interested in assisting in this aspect of research, please contact me at (403) 221-3090.*

Cydney at the Humpty Dumpty Ball in 1958

Crisis as Teacher

A Profile of Maggie Trott '95

Cydney and Maggie on an adventure

In June, 1959, my mother, then Cydney Burrell, matriculated from Balmoral Hall at age 16. As she headed off that Fall to take a B.A. in English Literature at the University of Minnesota, she was young, the very definition of spirited, and pretty gorgeous to boot. As BH grads from her era will know, my mother was charismatic—she had the "It" factor in spades, but was also too well-grounded to be anything less than authentic. These qualities drew people to her and led her to engage actively in the world around her—she protested the Vietnam war, vociferously warned her friends and family about the perils of over-population, and worried ceaselessly over the environment.

She made and kept good friends from every stage of her life; girls she knew in Grade Seven at Balmoral Hall were among her closest friends later in life. Her teenage move to Minneapolis was an assertion of independence, and after her degree she followed it up with a great deal of travel and a four-year stint in New York City before returning first to Minneapolis and finally to the city of her birth, Winnipeg, where she settled. Wherever Mum was, she appreciated her surroundings, reveling particularly in the breadth of art and music that New York had to offer (though ultimately the noise and pollution of that city in the 60s drove her away). In her lifetime she was a student, a teacher, a copy-editor, a real-estate agent, and a financial planner (to name but a few of the career paths she followed). All this could make her sound too much a gypsy to be much of a mother—but she was a natural. She had two children, my brother Grey Guindon (SJR '87) and myself, Maggie Trott (BH '95) whom she lavished, literally, with love. My generation of BHers will likely remember me as a debater, and I think it will come as no surprise to them that my best arguments and most compelling speeches were crafted in collusion with Mum. When she died on June 30th, 2006, I lost a mother, a mentor, and a best friend.

Tales recounted from my mother's life helped to shape many of the directions I have chosen to take in my own. When I graduated from Balmoral Hall I was inspired by her adventurous spirit to leap from being a known fish in a small pond to being a little fish in a big one at the University of Toronto. Compelled to travel by her stories of adventure in Europe and the Middle East, I vividly recall the pride I felt, at 21, when I stood before the Sphinx reflecting that my mother and brother had both been there (separately) before me. But I think that the greatest lesson my mother pressed upon me was that of loyalty and love for one's family.

After I had left Winnipeg for life in Toronto, my mother devoted considerable energy to helping my grandmother, who suffered from several episodes of ill health in the latter years of her life. Ill health eventually led to palliative care, and my mother demonstrated the dignity and honesty which can be attained in helping a loved one through long illness. When my mother was diagnosed with advanced breast cancer at age 61, just ten months after her own mother had died at age 91, I was equipped by her example to help her in her battle with cancer. We faced it squarely. While she didn't live much beyond the prognosis of two years which she was initially given, my mother did live more vibrantly and more fully than anyone could imagine. She took early retirement, walked every day, lost weight and got into shape. She did all that Western medicine told her to do for her health (including surgery, chemotherapy and radiation), and explored Traditional Chinese Medicine as well. Besides taking care of her physical body, my mother nurtured her spirit. She developed a great relationship with a psycho-social oncologist, and regularly attended Art Therapy classes at CancerCare Manitoba. She pored over the advice of cancer survivors and

positive thinkers. She spoke regularly with my brother about Buddhism and with her brother, Matthew Burrell (SJR '62), a gynecological oncologist, about his views on the power of mind over body. There was an interval of about a year after her initial treatments when, amazingly, she was healthier and genuinely more positive than she had been in more than a decade. Ultimately, metastases of her cancer caught up with her. An earlier diagnosis might well have made all the difference; she had waited 18 months between mammograms, at least six months too long.

Like everything else about my mother, her illness and death has shaped the path of my own life. When she was first diagnosed, I was just embarking upon a PhD in Medieval Art History. In the nearly three years which followed, I shifted between life in Toronto—with my very supportive partner John, stepchildren Luke and Brenna, and my coursework—and life in Manitoba, where I helped my mother to navigate her way through the healthcare system. I had a growing sense that I was learning a set of new skills that were valuable and important. It might seem a truism, but patients dealing with a new diagnosis need a great deal of personal support, and so do their families. I applied all my research acumen and years of scholastic analysis to helping coach my mother (and my brother and myself) through different options, and I think that in the process I discovered something else, a possible calling.

As I write this, I am on maternity leave from my PhD, having given birth last September to my son Jack, Mum's first grandchild. I am enjoying every minute of his new life, and I reflect daily on the pride my mother's spirit must feel in him. Meanwhile I meditate on whether to return to my degree come September or whether to strike out and offer my services as a patient and family advocate. I am leaning toward the latter choice.

We'd love to Profile You!

Help us continue **An Inside Look** as a regular feature in The Portal by letting us know where life has taken you, or give us a lead on a classmate!

Aimed at highlighting the many achievements of our alumnae, we look forward to sharing many more stories that will inspire the BH community.

Please contact Ginny Lechman '98 in the Alumnae Office at alumnae@balmoralhall.com or (204) 784-1603

1950s

Jill (Herrick) Dunbar '55
"Life is wonderful but passing so quickly. I am very busy with my three sons, their families and 9 wonderful grandchildren ages 8 to 16. They all live within 15 minutes from our condo on Lake Ontario. I am very involved in volunteering and am on the Board of a group called "Strokers" (people who have had strokes and come and spend the better part of the day with us) the main thrust being swimming, thus "Strokers". I am also on the Board of the Canadian Club and this does keep me quite busy. The church also keeps me busy as a Chalice Bearer, Server, Sharing in Caring Committee and visitor to a number of older parishioners and assisting our Rector at Communion Services at a nursing home. Not enough time left for my partner, Terry —so we headed to South Africa in October 2006 for three weeks along with a few friends with whom we have travelled to China and Greece. I would love to hear from any friends from BH—especially if they live in Southern Ontario. My email address is available on the BH Alumnae Email Directory."

1960s

Susan Bracken, Trish (Pennock) Biggs, Judith (Clough) Coll '66
Susan, Trish and Judith celebrated their 40th reunion in Spain in October 2006. Judith who resides in Spain welcomed Susan from Winnipeg and Trish from Calgary. All three had a wonderful time travelling and sightseeing.

1980s

Gail (Burrows) Cipryk '57, Nancy Cipryk '86
Congratulations to Nancy Cipryk, proud mom to Lura Emily Cipryk Klassen who was born May 4, 2006 (her dad's birthday). Lura was born on the 3rd hour of the 4th day of the 5th month of the 6th year. Shown in the photo are 3 generations of Cipryk women!

Clarissa Ding '83
"On December 18, my family and I flew from Sydney Australia to Winnipeg to visit family. The Alumnae Office graciously set up a day to visit the school and took me, my husband and son on a lovely tour. My son was most impressed with the school! This was my first visit back to Balmoral Hall since my graduation in 1983. The school has changed so much since I left. I am amazed and pleased to see the wonderful improvements. It certainly brought back many happy memories. The short time I spent at BH was one of my happiest and I built some good friendships from my BH days. It was so nice to see Mrs. Baillie again who was my math teacher. She always seemed to make learning math so much fun.

I currently reside in Sydney with my husband, Amos and son, Jonathan. I have grown to love Australia as much as I love Canada. I have been living here for 12 years now and prior to this I was working and living in Hong Kong. I am a Business Analyst with the largest insurance organization in Australia. My job keeps me busy and I truly enjoy my role which assists the organization in making good business decisions on each major project. I would love to hear from any classmates, please find my email address on the BH Alumnae Email Directory."

Jill Condra '86
"Andrew Hamm was born June 11, 2006, a few weeks earlier than expected. He is happy and thriving. I'm on maternity leave from Portage and Main Press, where I've been working for the past four years. My husband Jim Hamm and I will be spending most of the year in Minneapolis. I'll be adjusting to being a mummy and working on a series of books on costume history for Greenwood Press, which will be published in about a year or so."

Ju-Nee Yeo '89
"I am currently living in Vancouver and Taipei with my husband, Yita and our 3 M's—Megan (5), Maxine (3) and Martin (15 months). I work for an international pharmaceutical company, headquartered in Taiwan with subsidiaries in Canada and China. I am responsible for international business and corporate communications. I travel a lot. I would love to hear from anyone in my class! Please email me at juneeyeo@shaw.ca"

1990s

Angela (Wong) Berg '91
"Thank you for the BH Beginnings Bib that you sent over on behalf of Balmoral Hall. It was a great surprise. Life has been quite busy of course, but we're having a lot of fun. Shown in the photo is my husband Bill and children Matteo (5 months) and Jenniah (2.5 years)"

Class of '95 Reunites
Gals from the class of '95 recently got together for dinner and a few laughs.

Shown left to right: Shauna Labman, Ali Lount, Diane Orihel, Rebecca Lechman, and Lauren Hershfield.

Simone Lee '95
Simone attended Queens University and received a BSc in June 1999 and then attended the International Academy of Design Technology where she received an Honours Diploma in Fashion Design and Merchandising in June 2001. She now works as a Buyer for Corporate Express in San Jose, California. She has also modelled for the Toyota/ Honda 2006 car magazine and 2006 Petro Canada ads. Simone married Dr. Derrick Shaughnessy on August 11, 2006 in Santa Cruz California. They reside in San Jose California.

Jean Chen '95
"When I left Winnipeg on that summer day in 2000, I didn't think that it was farewell because I thought I'd come back soon enough. Yet time flies and it has been 6 years since then. Last year, I had the pleasure to meet Head of School, Ms. Sumerlus and Director of Admissions, Ms. McGhie when they visited Shanghai and Hong Kong, and it brought back so many memories. Although I still keep in touch with some BH residents from my time at BH (Karon Li '95, Christina Li '96, Yuko Omura '96, Anita Cheung '96, Yonnie Chan '95), I had almost no contact with any of our classmates. I sure miss all of them and would love to keep in contact. We had a tiny reunion last month when Amy Wu '94 came back to Shanghai and we planned a reunion for next summer in Winnipeg. I'd love to see more of our friends there if possible! I have not visited Winnipeg or BH since I left so I truly look forward to this! I am now working in Shanghai for my own business. If you are coming to China, you can drop me a line. My email address is available on the BH Alumnae Email Directory. I'd love to show you my city and my country. Till then, take care!"

Kristen Gale '99
Kristen spent her early 20's exchanging her mid-west lifestyle for urban savvy. With a Philosophy degree from the University of Western Ontario and a post-graduate diploma in Graphic Design, Kristen took her talents to New York City in 2002 where she managed event planning and design consulting for the hip VICE Magazine. After a year of high life in the Big Apple, Kristen returned to her home country landing in the heart of Canada's fashion capital: Montreal. For two years she continued to explore her creativity with VICE magazine amidst the glam hubbub of St. Laurent Blvd. Finally the dream-driven Kristen—itching for a new challenge—was drawn by the allure of Toronto. There she opened up THE TEN SPOT Nail Bar on Toronto's hip strip, Queen Street West. Within three short months THE TEN SPOT has been featured in Fashion Magazine, Lou Lou, Ellen Online, Sweetspot, Bobbi and Strut Magazine. In addition Kristen has partnered up or hosted private parties for The Drake Hotel, Holt Renfrew and was the official onsite spa of L'Oreal's Fashion Week. Kristen encourages any 'peggers from her past to come on in —slip into relaxation, sip a complimentary cocktail, meet someone new, watch 'Sex and the City' on the plasma and emerge looking fabulous!

Robin Westmacott '99
"I hope everybody is doing very well! A quick update on me—Mum and I went to Hawaii over the Christmas break which was lovely. My Dad was kind enough to look after my dog (I have a two-year-old Pug named Gryffin). School-wise, I'm in the first year of a Ph.D. in clinical psychology at the University of Ottawa—it has been a dream/goal since my BH days. I thought it might be a bit anticlimactic since I was looking forward to it so much but it hasn't been so far. It's exactly what I want to be doing, which is a fantastic feeling!"

2000s

Melanie (Brooker) Coodin '01
On June 11, 2006, Melanie married Dr. Michael Coodin in a beautiful, traditional Jewish ceremony at the Fort Garry Hotel in front of their 300 closest family and friends. Samantha Brooker '03, Melanie's sister and best friend, was her maid of honor. Following the wedding, Mel and Michael spent two weeks celebrating their honeymoon in Hawaii! It was a perfect wedding and honeymoon and they are thrilled to begin their new journey together.

Amanda Aldous '02
"I am completing my final year at the Royal Military College of Canada in Kingston, ON. In May I will graduate with an Honours Political Science degree and will be commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Air Force as a Logistics Officer. In November, I was given the opportunity to return home to Winnipeg to promote the college and one of the university fairs we attended happened to be at BH!"

Christy Kolt '03
Christy had a great summer working on a research grant and playing softball. Her team represented Manitoba in the Canadian Jr. Nationals in Montreal. For only the second time in 32 years, Manitoba came home with the gold medal. Christy's coach called her the "Hoover" at 3rd base as nothing could get by her. She also finished her degree in biochemistry at the U of M. Christy was accepted into both the Faculty of Pharmacy and Faculty of Medicine at the U of M. She has followed her first love and started Medicine in August.

Kana Sugiyama '04
Kana, a graduate of Balmoral Hall's first Maple program in 2004 visited the school in August. She has completed one term of her university studies and is majoring in international relations. Kana was pleased to report that all of the Winnipeg Maple girls have successfully completed their course of studies at our sister school, Shizuoka Eiwa and are presently attending many of the top universities in Japan. We also were pleased to learn that Yuki Kubota, another 2004 Maple student received the top honours for both Grade 11 and Grade 12 in Shizuoka. Kana visited with our 2006 Maple students and stayed with her 2004 homestay family. She was pleased to visit with her homestay family and Balmoral Hall teachers and would like to visit Winnipeg again. Kana believes that studying English in Balmoral Hall School's Maple program was instrumental in ensuring her acceptance into university. We were delighted to welcome Kana for her visit to BH.

Peace

Dorothy (Peggy) Lawson RLS '33

Peggy passed away September 2, 2006, following a two month hospitalization due to a broken hip. Born in Winnipeg, Peggy attended Rupert's Land School followed by two years of university. During the Second World War, Peggy was proud to be a Lieutenant in the WRENS (Signals). She was stationed from 1942 –1945 in Ottawa and Vancouver. Returning to Winnipeg, Peggy led an active life, highlighted by her love of animals and golf.

Verna MacLachlan RIV '39
Verna passed away peacefully on October 17, 2006. In early 2004, Verna was diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma and spent the last two years in treatment for that and a number of other associated ailments. Verna attended school in The Pas and Riverbend, then took Interior Decorating at the University of Manitoba. She switched to nursing and graduated as an R.N. from St. Anthony's Hospital in The Pas. Verna's love for her children and grandchildren was unbounded. Despite the rigors of raising a large family, Verna was able to take part in a variety of community activities.

Barbara Allan RIV '40
Barbara passed away on October 23, 2006 after a brief illness. Barbara, was the former Associate Dean, Academic Affairs at the Mandel School/Case Western Reserve University, and a long-time member of the Western Reserve Poodle Club.

Joan (Harris) Macrae RIV '43
Joan passed away August 13, 2006 at home in Gairloch, Scotland.

Margaret "Peggy" (Dolmage) Cseres RIV '48
Peggy passed away on January 13, 2007 at the Victoria General Hospital in Winnipeg. In her teens, Peggy was sent to live with her aunts in Winnipeg, where she attended Riverbend School from Grade 10 onwards. The culture shock of moving alone from frontier life to the city was significant, but Peggy rose above the challenges and soon excelled at the top of her class. She then attended United College and transferred to the University of Manitoba, graduating in 1956 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. Peggy always maintained an active interest and involvement in the farm land and oil business established by her grandfather.

Mary-Kaye (Simpkinson) Kurkjian '55
Mary-Kaye passed away peacefully on November 10, 2006, surrounded by family including her beloved husband of 46 years. Born in Trail, BC in 1937, Mary-Kaye studied ballet at Balmoral Hall School before moving to Toronto to dance and to study at Trinity College, University of Toronto, where she earned her BA in English in 1960. In later years, Mary-Kaye returned to teacher's college in preparation to fulfill a life-long dream of becoming a teacher. Along with her professional work teaching English as a second language, Mary-Kaye found countless hours to volunteer in her church congregation, her children's schools, and in the broader community.

Sylvia (Pierce) Baker '55
Sylvia passed away suddenly on November 29, 2006. Having graduated in Grade 11 from Balmoral Hall School, she went on to graduate from the Winnipeg General Hospital School of Nursing in 1959. Upon graduation, Sylvia worked as a Registered Nurse at Royal University Hospital.

Cydney (Burrell) Trott '60

Following a valiant struggle with metastasized breast cancer, Cydney Trott died with grace and dignity on June 30, 2006, at her home. After moving to 115 West Gate in 1954, Cydney attended Balmoral Hall School. A great brain as well as a great beauty, she took Junior Matriculation in Grade 11 at age sixteen and left that fall to attend the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. She often said that the prairie was in her blood and in 1973, Cydney returned to Winnipeg. Love for her children and the farm shaped the rest of her life. An innate mathematician, Cydney became a financial planner in the mid-80s and remained in the financial business until her retirement early in 2004.

Nancy (Parke) Augustine '70

Nancy passed away August 17, 2006 at Delnor Community Hospital in Geneva, Illinois. Nancy was born in Winnipeg and attended Brock Corydon, St. Mary's Academy, and Balmoral Hall schools. She completed her sophomore year at Kansas State University.

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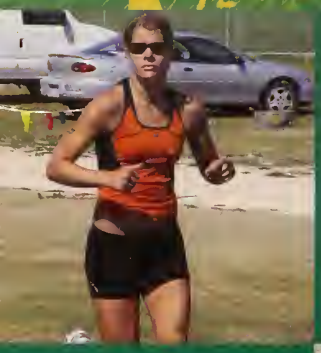

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